

AVIATION AND AEROSPACE

BUDGET REQUESTS ADDRESSING CRITICAL
WORKFORCE NEEDS

- ❑ Virginia Space Grant Consortium, jointly funded by NASA and the Commonwealth of Virginia, proactively provides STEM education, workforce development, and research programs by successfully leveraging funding and statewide and national partnerships.

The Need to Meet Workforce Demands

- The demand for aviation jobs is extremely high. Sixty thousand new U.S. pilots will be needed in the next 15 years as well as 10,000 new U.S. air traffic controllers and 480,000 new aviation maintenance technicians worldwide by 2026. (ICAO)
- 25,000 new aircraft will be added to the current 17,000-strong commercial fleet requiring pilots, maintenance and other support. (ICAO)
- ❖ The Virginia General Assembly's Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS) 2016 - 2017 study on Aviation and Aerospace made recommendations to strengthen workforce development programs in support of Virginia's aviation and aerospace industries.

Budget Requests

- ❑ Supported independently by studies conducted by the Virginia Department of Aviation's 2017 Workforce plan as well as the Virginia Chamber's Blueprint 2025.
- ❑ Proposed funding will expand existing Virginia sponsored programs to further strengthen workforce development and tools in support of Virginia's aviation and aerospace industries.

Amendment 1

❑ Online Information Portal for Aviation and Aerospace Education and Workforce Development Programs and Events.

- VSGC will develop and manage an Online Portal to provide a continuously updated, relevant, searchable website providing relevant information about the more than 185 education and workforce programs, career pathways and events available statewide.
- The website and database will be easily accessible to citizens, business and industry, and academia.
- VSGC staff will answer questions, advise and help connect people to resources throughout the Commonwealth.
- ❖ **Funding request: \$120,000 in Caboose Bill and \$293,000 each year of the biennium.**

Amendment 2

❑ Virginia Aviation Scholars Program (VASP)

- To meet industry workforce needs, young people need to be introduced to aviation and aerospace opportunities while in high school and before.
- Expands VSGC's award-winning, best practice program, the Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS) program.
- The Virginia Aviation Scholars program (VASP) free to students statewide in grades 10-12, would provide Fundamentals of Aviation online course for Career and Technical Education and dual enrollment credit for at least 200 students each year.
- High-performing students would participate in a one-week residential immersive summer academy post course completion. Two academies are proposed for a total of 80 participants.

❖ **Funding request: \$340,000 in each year of the biennium.**

Amendment 3

❑ Expansion of Paid Aviation and Aerospace Internships through the Commonwealth STEM Industry Internship Program.

- There is a demonstrated need to develop and provide aviation and aerospace internship opportunities to students throughout the Commonwealth.
- VSGC will expand the state-funded Commonwealth STEM Industry Internship Program (CSIIP) to recruit additional aviation and aerospace companies willing to provide interns, and seed sponsored internships for high-needs aviation and aerospace jobs.

❖ **Funding request: \$264,000 in each year of the biennium.**

Amendment 4

❑ BLAST (Building Leaders Advancing Science and Technology) – Aviation Focused Sessions

- Funding for VSGC to expand the award-winning BLAST program offering two additional summer sessions dedicated to aviation. Programs would be held at universities like Liberty University School of Aeronautics and Averett University and others with strong aviation programs.
- BLAST provides a three-day, STEM intensive, hands-on residential summer college experience at no cost to students prior to grades 9 and 10.
- New sessions would offer hands-on, immersive experiences through which students will learn about aviation careers and pathways.

❖ **Funding request: \$168,000 in each year of the biennium.**

Summary

VSGC Program	Funding Request
On-line Aviation and Aerospace Portal (1x Development cost)	\$ 120,000
On-line Aviation and Aerospace Portal	\$ 293,000
Virginia Aerospace Aviation Scholars Program	\$ 340,000
Aviation and Aerospace Internship Program	\$ 264,000
Building Leaders Advancing Science and Technology	\$ 168,000
Total First Year:	\$ 1,185,000
Subsequent Annual Operating Cost:	\$ 1,065,000